

Amendments to the Specification

Before paragraph [0002], please add the following heading:

--BACKGROUND--.

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

[0011] ~~All~~ These known methods have the disadvantage that they are not able to recognize a mask which is applied to a vital object.

Before paragraph [00012], please add the following heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

[0012] ~~The present invention is underlied by the problem~~ An object of the present invention ~~is~~ to specify a method and an apparatus of the initially said type with which a high fraud resistance is reached. The present invention ~~shall be~~ is applicable modularly with existing methods of recognition and shall recognize imitations securely which have been created by applying masks onto the objects to be recognized.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

[0013] ~~According to the~~ The present invention, the problem is solved by provides a method for recognition of biometric data, in particular for the recognition of characteristics of fingers and of faces of persons, comprising The present invention also provides a an apparatus for carrying out such a method. ~~comprising the attributes given in claim 1 and by an apparatus comprising the attributes given in claim 13.~~

Please replace paragraph [0014] with the following amended paragraph:

[0014] Advantageous embodiments are ~~given in the dependent claims~~ described in the specification and in the claims.

Before paragraph [0034], please add the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.